

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN

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WHERE IT IS THE FULL INTENTION OF THE EDITORS TO ALLOW THE LARGEST LIBERTY TO CONTRIBUTORS, IT MUST BE DISTINCTLY UNDERSTOOD THAT WE DO NOT THEREBY ENDORSE THEIR OPINIONS, OR ARE IN ANY SENSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM.

NEWS ITEMS, NOTICES AND REPORTS MUST BE SENT TO THE OFFICE NOT LATER THAN THURSDAY EVENING OF EACH WEEK, IF THEY ARE TO APPEAR IN THE CURRENT NUMBER.

TRANSIENT NOTICES, FIFTY CENTS FOR EIGHT LINES, EACH INSERTION. FOR LARGER SPACE AND PERMANENT RATES, APPLY AS ABOVE.

WATER SUPPLY AND FIRE INSURANCE.

It goes without the saying that these two interests are closely connected, and that the value of a water supply is as great or even greater to an insurance company than it can be to private property holders. It is well known that after the recent conflagrations at Red Bank in this State the fire companies, acting from motives of self-preservation, refused to continue to take risks in that town unless some adequate means for extinguishing fires and saving property were at once devised and put into operation, and this threat has had the desired result. The loss to the several companies which had policies on the buildings burned in Bloomfield this spring was greater than the combined losses of the owners, although one of them had no insurance at all, and for some weeks afterwards some of the insurance companies talked of charging higher premiums in Bloomfield than they had hitherto required.

In fixing the rate to be charged upon their risks, the companies are in the habit of considering two elements. First, the frequency with which fires are likely to occur; and second, the possibility of extinguishing with small loss such fires when they do occur.

It is obvious that if there are no means of suppressing a fire the companies must expect to pay a total loss in every case, and the rate to be charged must be correspondingly high; but if an abundant supply of water and an efficient fire association may be called out and made use of on short notice, it is equally clear that in most instances the companies may expect only a partial loss, and can therefore accept the risk at a lower rate of premium.

For the reasons which are above outlined every plan for a public water supply may hope to receive the strong encouragement of insurance companies and their managers, while the reduced rate of premium will induce the owners of improved property to secure indemnity against loss, and will at the same time be a compensation for the slight increase in their taxes which is necessary in order to obtain the water.

TAX SALES.

The Township Committee at a recent meeting directed the Township Counsel to prepare a warrant ordering the Collector to sell such real estate as had not yet paid the tax for the year 1881.

The laws of this State make the tax a lien upon the land for the term of two years, and at any time before the expiration of the two years the property may be sold to the township or to any outside party for a term not exceeding thirty years.

For a long while the taxes were supposed to be second to the lien of any mortgages which might be upon the land, so that the holders of mortgages really felt no concern as to whether the taxes were paid or not, but some years since the Legislature passed an act giving the tax a preference, so that now the holders of mortgages must either see to it that the owners pay the tax or they must run the risk of having to pay it themselves should their mortgage ever be foreclosed.

Some people seem to think that taxes may be left unpaid until such time as it may be quite convenient to spare the money. Such persons forget that all our municipal expenses have to be met and paid for by somebody, and that if they would all pay their taxes the general rate of assessments could be lowered.

It is very vexatious to have men complain of the Town Committee or of the people because money is not spent as freely as they would wish, and then to remember that these very men do not in some instances pay their share of the money which is spent.

The obligation to pay taxes is supreme, and should be considered a debt of honor to the State in return for the privilege of owning property and receiving the protection of the laws.

BLOOMFIELD VS. NEWARK.

The sickening odors that pervade a large portion of the city during these hot nights suggest that it is about time for some one to rise and explain to the afflicted public why none of the indignities, found against the city by two Grand Jurors, for maintaining what is called "The Fourteenth ward nuisance," have never been brought to trial. A word from the Prosecutor of Pleas on that subject would be in order just now. The fact that a tardy experiment to discharge the sewage through an open ditch into the bay is in progress can hardly atone for the damage already done or compensate the suffering people who are now compelled to breathe the night air reeking with pestilential odors. A New Jersey court would hardly excuse a manufacturer on the plea that he was determined to reform and is trying to prevent a continuance of the wrong. Nor would the city itself show much mercy to a private individual who maintained a nuisance after a peremptory command to abate it. Yet here is a whole-sale nuisance threatening a great public calamity, which private citizens are compelled to endure without redress. Besides the annoyance, it endangers their health, impairs the value of property, and at the same time they are expected to pay their full share of the taxes!—*Newark Advertiser*, June 7, 1883.

This is an item which speaks for itself. That venerable and highly conservative journal would never go about holding its nose in this public manner if it had not some excellent good reason. You may be sure of that. And when you read about "sickening odors" pervading "a large portion of the city," you can rest assured that there must be a most amazingly vile smell to make the well-seasoned *Advertiser* cry "Faugh!"

The "Fourteenth ward nuisance" must be a pretty bad one if this showing is correct. But it amuses as well as surprises the average mind to observe the means taken to improve it. The sewage, we are told, is "discharged into the bay." And of course the tide comes in now and then, and the wash goes on up stream towards, if not into, the supply of drinking water that Newark depends upon. It isn't at all surprising that our big neighbor likes beer; it really makes a teetotaler willing to allow that beer, however baneful, is less to be shunned than that water!

Between Paterson up-stream and the Fourteenth ward down stream, the Passaic must be well infiltrated with nastiness beyond what we care to think or mention. And since it is incumbent on some persons to transact business in Newark and to keep the laws moving and the dollars going—why, we venture to suggest that there is no need for them to sacrifice their families to the same Moloch as themselves.

Here we are—less than four miles distant. Already a good number of Newark people have found Bloomfield a nice place for permanent residence. In a little while the electric motor will merrily whirl the experienced vehicles of the street car company back and forth at railroad speed. We don't have air "reeking with pestilential odors" in this vicinity. We don't feel fearful of any "great public calamity." Therefore, we make free to state that, although mosquitoes are not so large nor so venomous, although our beer carts are far less frequent, and although our electric lights are not yet lit, we think that otherwise we are able to offer advantages which should not be despised.

Wretched victims, those "pestilential odors" of yours ought not to be endured a single moment longer. Come far away from the night air of the slums and leave behind you the stench of the Fourteenth ward! Let it be said of good Newarkers that before they die they go to Bloomfield.

A SEANCE WITH OUR EXCHANGES.

"MRS. VAN, our newsdealer, has changed quarters."

"Precisely, and the one she gave out was pewter, but it was not discovered soon enough. Mrs. Van is twenty-five cents ahead."

"Now, children, you have permission to play on our cellar door, but for goodness' sake don't kick up such a racket, or we may mistake you for a pack of wild beasts. The club weighs ten pounds, and it will be a sad scene when we sally forth, or shortly thereafter."

"Mild-mannered brother of the quill, how came you to have a cellar door? Editors have no business with cellar doors. Editors have no business with clubs. Editors oughtn't to sally forth. Come, now! come, now! This won't do at all, you know!"

"A certain man, who for some time has enjoyed fish for breakfast, now mourns the loss of a fyke which he had set in the Hohokus brook. It has been ascertained on good authority that George Ricardo, the fish warden, has taken it. The people are wondering why he did not take the owner too."

"A 'fyke,' little children, is the forward end or bony part of a shad. The reason why the certain man left it in the Hohokus brook was because he couldn't eat it up immediately and got choked trying, and went down to the Hohokus brook to wash the fyke out of his throat. The reason why George Ricardo didn't take the man when he took the fyke, was because George was too hungry himself to want the man."

"Careless driving on the part of Wells' coachman or a boy resulted in the upset and breaking of Wells' carriage, Monday morning. The boy was driving a box wagon, one wheel of which ran into the flank of Wells' near-side horse, bruising the leg severely. The off hind wheel of the carriage was dished, and the coachman narrowly escaped striking the curb."

We print this—uncredited, for there is nothing mean about us—as a horrible example of how *not* to make an item. You are in the most dreadful uncertainty whether the boy upset Wells' coachman; or whether the boy and the coachman together kept three wheels of the box wagon from running into anything, or whether Wells' near-side horse bruised the coachman's leg; or whether the boy was the coachman, or the coachman was the same as the boy; or whether the coachman kept the carriage from striking the curb or the curb kept the carriage from striking the coachman; or, in short—

well, what we meant to say was that the off hind wheel of the coachman must have been upset by the boy's near-side horse of Wells' team who dished the one wheel of the box wagon that didn't strike the curb.

"How do you like our new heading?"—We don't know, neighbor; your nose isn't natural and your eye is in mourning. The little difference in the office the other day was hardly beautiful, that's a fact.

"We are indebted to Lawyer—for favors to which we couldn't respond by publishing this week owing to other pressing matters. Other friends may also be disappointed for the same reason."

"No, the other friends are not disappointed one bit. We're sorry you couldn't cash up, but we didn't expect it—indeed, we didn't. We also admire your skill in substituting a comma for a dash."

"Ladies will receive a handsome pitcher, gentlemen a handsome pique scarf, and children a cup and saucer who buy their shoes of—Bros., on June 9, 1883."

"The 'handsome pitcher' must be Sullivan. There wouldn't be enough of him to go around. It must be the 'only Nolan' or some other fellow. As for the gentlemen—who wants pique or fill temper done up in a scarf or any other way? And how nice and happy a dear little boy would look going home with his pretty cup and saucer, marked, 'To my Wife.'"

"It begins to look as if the morning printers would be successful in removing the old cabooses from the way freight, and to have in its place a more comfortable coach. A petition to that effect has been presented to the railway powers that be."

"Ah, yes, that's the way with the boys! When we saw them prying that caboose up out of the way freight, we thought the thing was moving. But there's a bad misprint in *coach*—for which read *couch*."

The Rev. Dr. John Hall, who travelled in Russia last summer, says: "The physical surroundings in Russia are not dissimilar to those of New Jersey. The land is only partially cultivated; it is mostly flat, in many places marshy, and in others covered with a growth of inferior wood. Imagine New Jersey magnified by 10,000, and you can form a picture of Russia. The temperature in July and August is very like that experienced by the people of New Jersey in May and June."

"We have now met this paragraph often enough to want to catch and stop it. Dr. Hall is almost estimable and courteous gentleman, who would not for the world do an injustice to any person. His experience of New Jersey must have taken him rather into the Pines than to the more northern and north-central parts of the State. If Dr. Hall, now, had said, 'the southern tier of counties,' he would have hit it nicely. But it would shock all Orange Mountain to find itself like Russia—aristocratic as it might seem!"

BUSINESS NOTICES.

The second annual excursion of the Acme Association, advertised elsewhere, will be made to Ocean Grove on Wednesday, July 11th. The train leaves Broad St. station at 9 o'clock A. M., which will allow the excursionists ample time in which to reach the depot. Tickets will be on sale at John P. Scherff's pharmacy.

The excursion of the Order of Chosen Friends to Greenwood Lake, on July 6th, will be a cheap and enjoyable trip. The fare has been placed at seventy-five cents, which includes the sail on the Lake. Warwick, Woodlands, this season have been supplied with good spring water, and the management has undergone an entire change. So that the excursionists can expect to have their wants supplied promptly.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

The Mails will Close and Arrive at the Post Office in Bloomfield as follows:
By way of Newark & Bloomfield Railroad.
Close at 7 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
Arrive at 8:30 A. M. and 5:30 P. M.

By way of New York & Greenwood Lake Railroad.
Close at 8:15 A. M. and 5:00 P. M.
Arrive at 9:45 A. M. and 5:30 P. M.

HORACE DODD, Postmaster.
Bloomfield, N. J., Feb. 13, 1883.

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A collection of Poems and Ballads of the Sea, compiled by ANNA L. WARD.

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OCEAN GROVE.

Second Annual Excursion

OF THE

Acme Association,

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 1883,

Via Central R. R. of New Jersey.

Tickets, - One Dollar.

Children between 6 and 12 years, 50 cents.

Tickets for sale at John P. Scherff's Pharmacy, Bloomfield, and at the depot on the morning of the excursion.

Train leaves Broad Street Station, Newark and New York Railroad, 9:00 A. M. Return leave Ocean Grove 7:00 and Long Branch 7:10 P. M., affording 8 hours at the Beach.

NOTICE.—If a rainy day, the Excursion will be postponed, and notice of postponement will be published in this paper.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

Miss HENRIETTA NORTALL
—AND—
Miss KITTIE DAVIES
Will open a Select School in Bloomfield on Sept. 26, 1883. Location on Broad Street, opp. the Park.
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Residence: Elm Street, Bloomfield.
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